



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 566

February Session, 2000

An Act Enhancing Cultural Heritage And Tourism.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (a) There is established a Heritage Advisory
2 Committee. The committee shall be comprised of a representative of
3 (1) the Connecticut Historical Commission, the Connecticut
4 Humanities Council, (2) the Connecticut Museum Association, the
5 Connecticut Tourism Association, (3) the Connecticut Tourism
6 Council, the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, and (4) the
7 League of Connecticut History Organizations. The State Historian and
8 the State Archeologist shall also serve on said committee. Said
9 committee shall coordinate heritage initiatives across the state, assist
10 the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
11 cognizance of matters relating to commerce in reviewing heritage
12 bonding proposals and offer policy recommendations to the
13 appropriate committees of the General Assembly to strengthen the
14 capacities of the cultural heritage and tourism industries.

15 (b) The Heritage Advisory Committee, established pursuant to
16 subsection (a) of this section, and the chairpersons and ranking
17 members, or their designees, of the joint standing committee of the
18 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce,
19 shall serve as a review committee to advise said standing committee
20 on the merits of bonding requests based on criteria established
21 pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

22 (c) The joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
23 cognizance of matters relating to commerce shall establish review
24 criteria for heritage bonding proposals. The criteria of a bonding
25 request shall include, but not be limited to, specific project standards
26 and sponsor standards.

27 Sec. 2. (NEW) There is established a Heritage Working Group to be
28 comprised of the chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the
29 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to commerce
30 and the chairpersons of the subcommittee of the joint standing
31 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
32 relating to funding for the heritage industry. Such working group shall
33 have oversight responsibilities for the heritage industry to coordinate
34 legislative oversight of the industry.

35 Sec. 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 32-305 of the
36 general statutes, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, and annually
37 thereafter, the Commissioner of Revenue Services shall segregate from
38 gross receipts from sales within the meaning of subparagraph (h) of
39 subdivision (2) of section 12-407 of the general statutes, the following
40 percentages, which are allocated as provided in this section:

41 (1) Eight hundred fifty-five ten thousandths of one per cent to the
42 State Library, for the purpose of creating a matching grant program for
43 collection preservation, including, but not limited to, microfilming and
44 digitalization projects across the state;

45 (2) One hundred seventy-one ten thousandths of one per cent to the
46 State Library, for the purpose of creating a matching grant program for
47 improving environmental conditions for state and local records;

48 (3) Five hundred thirteen ten thousandths of one per cent to the
49 Connecticut Humanities Council Cultural Heritage Development
50 Fund, for the purpose of establishing a matching grant program for the
51 care and preservation of museum and historical-society-based heritage
52 collections;

53 (4) One thousand six hundred twenty-five ten thousandths of one
54 per cent to the Connecticut Historical Commission, for the purpose of
55 creating a matching grant program for the restoration of the state's
56 historical structures and landmarks owned by the state's nonprofit
57 organizations and municipalities;

58 (5) One hundred seventy-one thousandths of one per cent to the
59 Connecticut Humanities Council and the Connecticut Historical
60 Commission, for the purpose of establishing a matching grant program
61 providing support to mid-level heritage and preservation
62 organizations across the state;

63 (6) One hundred seventy-one thousandths of one per cent to the
64 Historic Asset Fund for the purpose of reestablishing a support
65 mechanism for heritage institutions to be jointly administered by the
66 Department of Economic and Community Development, the
67 Connecticut Historical Commission and the Connecticut Humanities
68 Council;

69 (7) One hundred seventy-one thousandths of one per cent to the
70 Department of Economic and Community Development for the
71 purpose of expanding state-wide tourism efforts;

72 (8) Four hundred twenty-eight ten thousandths of one per cent to
73 the State Library for the purpose of enhancing its conservation and
74 preservation services, including, but not limited to, conserving and
75 enhancing access to the State Library's collections and the State
76 Archives and to provide technical services to local municipalities and
77 other repositories;

78 (9) Four hundred twenty-eight ten thousandths of one per cent to
79 the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation for the purpose of
80 funding the program of technical and planning assistance to determine
81 the feasibility, costs and administrative mechanisms necessary to
82 preserve historic structures and landmarks;

83 (10) One hundred seventy-one ten thousandths of one per cent to

84 the Cultural Heritage Development Fund for the purpose of
85 supporting professional development;

86 (11) One hundred seventy-one ten thousandths of one per cent to
87 The University Of Connecticut for the purpose of maintaining the
88 Office of the State Historian and supporting its research, technical
89 assistance and publication efforts;

90 (12) One thousand two hundred eighty-three ten thousands of one
91 per cent to the Connecticut Humanities Council for the purpose of
92 expanding the Cultural Heritage Development Fund, administered by
93 said council;

94 (13) Three hundred forty-two ten thousandths of one per cent to the
95 tourism districts for the purpose of strengthening regional tourism
96 promotion;

97 (14) One hundred seventy-one ten thousandths of one per cent to
98 Central Connecticut State University for the purpose of establishing a
99 tourism training institute for tourism professionals and for other
100 functions enhancing tourism;

101 (15) One hundred seventy-one ten thousandths of one per cent to
102 the Connecticut Historical Society for the purpose of providing
103 funding for the expenses of Connecticut History Day, a day of history
104 attended by high school students around the state;

105 (16) One hundred seventy-one ten thousandths of one per cent to
106 The University of Connecticut for the purpose of funding the State
107 Archeologist;

108 (17) One hundred seventy-one ten thousandths of one per cent for
109 the purpose of funding the Beardsley Park Zoo.

110 Sec. 4. Section 32-305 of the general statutes is repealed and the
111 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

112 (a) The Commissioner of Revenue Services shall segregate (1) one

113 and one-half per cent of the gross receipts from sales within the
114 meaning of subdivision (h) of subsection (2) of section 12-407, as
115 amended, by any hotel or lodging house located in any municipality
116 having a population of less than sixty-five thousand, (2) three and one-
117 half per cent of the gross receipts from such sales in any municipality
118 having a population of sixty-five thousand or more but less than
119 seventy-five thousand, and (3) four and one-half per cent of the gross
120 receipts from such sales in any municipality having a population of
121 seventy-five thousand or more, provided the commissioner shall
122 segregate three and one-half per cent of the gross receipts from such
123 sales in the municipality having the most popular tourist attraction in
124 the state, as determined by the Office of Tourism, if such municipality
125 has a population of less than sixty-five thousand. Such segregated
126 funds shall be allocated to tourism districts established under section
127 32-302 as follows: The portion of the funds attributable to such tax
128 receipts in a municipality shall be allocated to the tourism district in
129 which the municipality is located, provided (A) ninety per cent of the
130 amount attributable to such gross receipts from sales in Hartford shall
131 be allocated to the Capital City Economic Development Authority and
132 ten per cent of the amount attributable to such gross receipts from
133 sales in Hartford shall be allocated to the Greater Hartford Arts
134 Council, (B) seventy-five per cent of the amount attributable to such
135 gross receipts from sales in New Haven shall be allocated to the New
136 Haven Coliseum Authority, (C) seventy-five per cent of the amount
137 attributable to such gross receipts from sales in Stamford shall be
138 allocated to the Stamford Center for the Arts, (D) seventy-five per cent
139 of the amount attributable to such gross receipts from sales in Norwalk
140 shall be allocated to the Maritime Center Authority, [and] (E) seventy-
141 five per cent of the amount attributable to such gross receipts from
142 sales in Bridgeport shall be allocated to the Greater Fairfield district
143 established in section 32-302, as amended, for the sole purpose of
144 marketing tourist attractions located in Bridgeport. If for any state
145 fiscal year the amount of the allocation under subparagraph (E) is less
146 than the amount of funds allocated during the fiscal year ending June
147 30, 1991, to the then existing Bridgeport Convention and Visitors

148 Bureau, pursuant to sections 7-136b and 7-136c of the general statutes,
149 revised to January 1, 1991, the Connecticut Tourism Council shall
150 provide a grant under section 32-300, from the tourism account, in the
151 amount of such difference, to said Greater Fairfield district for the
152 purpose set forth in subparagraph (E). Notwithstanding the provisions
153 of this section, during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1998, the
154 Commissioner of Revenue Services shall segregate one hundred fifty
155 thousand dollars from any increase in receipts of such amount
156 segregated under this section during the fiscal year ending June 30,
157 1997, and shall allocate such segregated amount to the Connecticut
158 Film, Video and Media Office established under section 32-86a,
159 provided the amount segregated and allocated to any entity under this
160 section is not less than the amount segregated and allocated during the
161 fiscal year ending June 30, 1997. Not later than January 1, 1999, and
162 annually thereafter, each tourism district and each authority receiving
163 funds under this section shall submit to the Connecticut Tourism
164 Council a full audit of the books and accounts of the district or
165 authority for the preceding fiscal year at the same time that an audit is
166 submitted to the Office of Policy and Management under subsection (f)
167 of section 32-302, as amended. Each such audit shall be conducted by
168 an independent certified public accountant. The Commissioner of
169 Revenue Services shall also segregate an additional one million dollars
170 of the sales tax receipts from such sales in the state during each state
171 fiscal year and allocate such funds to the cultural heritage
172 development account established under section 10-373bb. The
173 Commissioner of Revenue Services may adopt regulations, in
174 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, concerning accounting
175 procedures necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

176 (b) The Commissioner of Revenue Services shall segregate eight-
177 tenths of one per cent of the gross receipts from sales within the
178 meaning of subdivision (h) of subsection (2) of section 12-407, as
179 amended, by any hotel or lodging house and allocate such funds to the
180 tourism account established pursuant to section 32-303.

181 [(b)] (c) Except as provided by law, a tourism district, convention

182 center authority, coliseum authority or the Capital City Economic
183 Development Authority, as the case may be, may borrow money to
184 pay its obligations that cannot be paid at maturity out of current
185 revenue from such allocations, but shall not borrow a sum greater than
186 can be repaid out of the allocations anticipated during the year in
187 which the money is borrowed. The tourism district, convention center
188 authority or coliseum authority, as the case may be, may pledge its
189 securities to secure the repayment of any sum so borrowed.

190 Sec. 5. Subsection (g) of section 12-667 of the general statutes is
191 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

192 (g) The proceeds from the surcharge imposed by this chapter shall
193 be deposited in the [tourism account established under section 32-303]
194 General Fund.

CE Committee Vote: Yea 25 Nay 1 JFS C/R FIN